

CJS-J.D.

Department of Justice

Bureau of Investigation

15 PARK ROW, 14TH FLOOR

NEW YORK, N. Y.

November 30, 1921.

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Director,
Bureau of Investigation,
Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

~~General Intelligence Division.~~

In Re: Elizabeth Gurley Flynn.
Radical Activities.

Dear Sir:

I am attaching herewith, the history of Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, the data for which was furnished this office by Mr. L. A. Stringham, representative of the National Metal Trades Association.

Yours very truly,

EDWARD J. BRENNAN

~~SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE.~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-10-83 BY 367

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Wm. J. Burns	
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ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN

Born 1888, eldest daughter of Thomas and Marie Gurley Flynn, who were of Irish Scotch ancestry. Father engineer by occupation, residence #511 East 134th Street, New York City, (Bronx) formerly Mulberry Street, Scranton Pa., said to have been in employ of New York New Haven and Hartford Railroad as engineer at one time and a socialist. E. G. F. educated public schools of New York, graduate of Morris High School, New York City (Bronx). Member of High School Debating Society Primary course of Economics, natural born orator. Shortly after high school graduation in 1906, through school acquaintances known to her and her prominence in the High School Debating Society, addressed by request an assemblage of girls out on strike in the Millinery trades, several of them were her former classmates. She was immediately proclaimed their champion and naturally assumed leadership. Her work in their behalf which included a number of soap box speeches, together with her gift of oratory and youth combined, made her conspicuous. She became identified with the Socialist Labor Party of the I.W.W. and at a small salary engaged by the leaders as a Field Organizer. Her first public speech of prominence was to a packed house in the latter part of 1906 in the old west side Socialist Hall on Eighth Avenue, New York City. She continued organization work in and around New York delivering soap box lectures, also talking before large audiences in halls and etc., during the winter of 1906 and in 1907 was sent to Lawrence Mass., in connection with the Lawrence Textile Strike, in which she played a prominent part as organizer with Joseph Etter, Amuro Giovannatti, Carlo Tresca and William Haywood which was a long and bitter struggle, consisting of hardships privations injuries and deaths resulting from the difficulty. In 1908

while engaged in radical agitation around Northern Michigan and Minnesota, copper and iron district, married John Archibald Jones of Bovey, Minn., whose occupation was given as a miner, was a radical agitator and co worker of L.S. Chumley of the I.W.W. whom she had met the year before at the I.W.W. Convention. They lived together only a few days after the marriage. Jones was arrested, tried, convicted and sentenced to a term in the Michigan penitentiary for sabotage and carrying concealed weapons. E. G. F. bride of a few days, continued West to Montana making radical speeches and during her organizing campaign, a son JOHN F. JONES, was born to her, while in the west. In 1909 at Spokane Washington she was arrested, tried and convicted and sentenced to jail for conspiracy and inciting riot, for which she served several months.

Jones returned to Chicago on his release from jail in Michigan. In July 1920 secured a divorce from his wife on the grounds of desertion, said to have taken place a few days following their marriage. August 1920 Jones married Anna Mitchell, a portrait painter of New York, at Crown Point, Indiana. Her parents objected to the match. Six weeks after the wedding Jones claimed that his wife was drowned in Lake Michigan during a squall which came up while they were out in a motor boat.

After E. G. F. was released from jail at Spokane Washington she returned to the East with her son and again made her home with her parents at #511 East 134th Street, New York City. and continued a radical agitation in and around the Eastern section Boston, New York Philadelphia Little Falls, and Schenectady, most

of these places being later affected by disturbances, due to her efforts in the interests of the I.W.W. Socialist and other radical groups. The restauraht and hotel workers also came in for considerable organization during this period and in their strike the forepart of 1913 which was a bitter struggle, but lasted a comparatively short time, a period of only a few weeks, but affected about thirty of the larger hotels and restaurants. She preached sabotage also recommended the poisoning of guests and incited riots. Several were seriously injured during these difficulties a couple of lives lost and numerous hotel gueses and innocent bystanders being violently assaulted by strikers.

During 1913 the textile and silk industry strikes Paterson, New Jersey which several lives were lost and numerous people seriously injured E. G. F. organized for I.W.W. and succeeded Adolph Lessing as secretary of the Socialist Party, establishing at that time temporary residence in Paterson. Her co-workers were Hitter, Giovanetti, Fresca, Rose Pastor Stokes and Patrick Quinlan. Later was convicted of the charge of inciting riots and sentenced to the New Jersey State Penitentiary for a period of years. E. G. F. was arrested, several indictments being brought against her on account of inciting riot, violence, sabotage, and etc. She was represented by Jessie Ashley and Inez Milholand, Socialist Suffragette Lawyers, also Burke Cochran of New York and a local attorney named Marilli. Her trial was sensational after numerous postponements and in the winter of 1915 went free by jury disagreement, escaping conviction only by a slight margin, which beyond a doubt was a hang jury. 1916 to

1920 inclusive her activities continued speech making, organization agitation and propagation in the interests of the I.W.W. Socialistic Communists, anarchists and numerous other radical organizations throughout the East under the auspices of the American Civil Liberties Union, the workers defense Union and other radical affiliated organizations, such as the Consumers League, Clothing Workers, Textile Workers, Confectionery workers and Bed Spring Workers, Painters, Metal Workers, Cigar Makers Buttonhole makers, Feather Workers Fur workers, tailors, hatters, umbrella makers laundry workers, Negro, Italian and Hebrew U.S.S.'s and other radical workmen groups

In March 1921 E. G. F. was arrested at Philadelphia for preaching and possessing radical literature and organizing a radical movement in violation of the State Law. Her recent activities have been in the interest of the Sacco-Vanzetti Defense Committee of the Workers Defense Union, her co-workers being Pietro Allega, pronounced Anarchist, Carlo Tresca, Arturo Giovannitti, Felix Frankfurter, W.Z. Foster, Rose Schneidermann, Henry Jaeger, J.A. Muste, Scott Nearing, James Maurer, Regina Crane; Mrs. Glendower Evans, Mrs. Ranteuil, Fred Biedenkapp, Eugene Krug, Rose Pastor Stokes, Herman Adler, attorneys Recht and Einberger, Samuel Regansburg, Roscoe Pound, Theodore Shuisky, Morris Hillquit, Mr. & Mrs. Gelyer, Rhys Williams Norman Thomas, Steven Bircher, Judah Magnes, Morris Sorkin, Joseph Schlessberg, Samuel Levit, Sidney Hillman, and others also the recently deported Alexander Burkman, Emma Goldman, Gregory Weinstein Santeri Nourtva, L.C.A.K. Martens, and also Trotzky, (Brownstein) formerly residents of the Bronx. L.A.S.

61-496

Instructions received from Special Agent in Charge M.F.Blackmon.

REPORT MADE AT:	DATE WHEN MADE:	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE:	REPORT MADE BY:
Buffalo, N.Y.	1/17/22	1/15/22	W.L.Buchanan

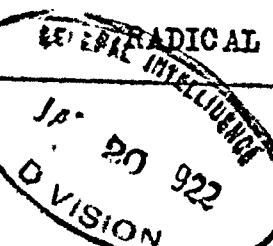
TITLE AND CHARACTER OF CASE:

(ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN,

RADICAL SPEAKER.

FACTS DEVELOPED:

At Syracuse, New York.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-10-83 BY 369

READ BY W.J.

Reference is made to letter from Special Agent in Charge Brennan, New York City, to the Director of the Bureau for attention of the General Intelligence Division, dated January 5th, 1922, and initialed CJS-JWD.

Pursuant to instructions, Agent proceeded to Syracuse, New York, and on arrival there learned that previous plans had been altered and that subject was to speak at Altman Hall, #708 North Salina Street, Syracuse, New York, instead of Cannizzo Hall. Agent therefore proceeded to Altman Hall and although Miss Flynn was scheduled to speak at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, she did not arrive until about 3:30 P.M. She seemed to be alone and after being briefly introduced by a local Italian, she immediately proceeded with her lecture.

Her entire discourse was relative to the trial of SACCO and VANZETTI and consisted of a complete history of the lives of the two men from the time of their arrival in the United States as poor immigrants to the present time and also a complete history of the trial and present status of the case.

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Washington-2: New York-1; Buffalo

She gave a synopsis of the testimony of each witness for and against the defendants, explained how the State's witnesses contradicted each other and dwelt upon the alibi alleged to have been established by the defendants, especially VANZETTI, whom she stated had thirty-six witnesses to prove that he was not in the town where the murder took place, but was in another town at the time the hold-up and robbery took place and that he was in this town hours before and hours after the time the offense was committed. Her detailed description of the trial was practically the same as given in the pamphlets and leaflets sent out by the SACCO-VANZETTI DEFENSE COMMITTEE of Boston and her speech was delivered a good deal in the manner in which a lawyer would sum up his case before the jury.

She also stated that throughout New England there is considerable talk and feeling against foreigners and that foreigners, the majority of whom are Italians, are discriminated against; that as it was well known and the defendants admitted that they were radicals and labor leaders active in strikes and in any movement for the uplift of labor, that this was the real reason for their conviction; that she had been speaking in different places for the past year in connection with this case and had talked with SACCO and VANZETTI personally and had also made many investigations in connection with the case; that from her personal investigations and experience she was satisfied that this crime was committed by experienced hold-up men and not by these two workmen; that the police being

unable to apprehend the guilty parties were determined to fasten the crime on SACCO and VANZETTI in order to clean their own skirts.

Also, that she and others connected with the Defense Committee were working on leads which might disclose the identity of the real murderers and while she did not wish to create any false hopes, she thought it possible that sufficient information along this line to involve others would be obtained before final decision was made in the defendants' cases.

She also stated that the Judge in charging the jury remarked that they, (the jury), should have courage in finding the verdict the same as the boys had who went to Europe and who fought and lost their lives for their country and that the jury, no doubt, interpreted this as meaning that they should find the defendants Guilty.

She also spoke of the friendship of VANZETTI for SALSEDО and called attention to the fact that SALSEDО'S body was found on the sidewalk in front of the offices of the Department of Justice, which are on the fourteenth floor of the Park Row Building, New York City, where SALSEDО had been held for months by officials of the Department of Justice, and stated that SALSEDО'S wife was now suing former Attorney General Palmer, Mr. Flynn, Mr. Lamb, and other officials of the Department of Justice for \$200,000. and that SALSEDО'S wife expected to prove that these officials were responsible for the death of her husband.

She further stated that the Defense Committee did not expect that the trial judge would grant a request for a new trial, as that would be reversing his own decision, but that they had every reason to believe that when the case was taken before the Supreme Court of the State of Massachusetts, that a new trial would be granted.

There were thirty-four present at the meeting, including eight women. About twenty were Italians and the balance were Jewish, Polish and German. A collection of about \$5.50 was taken up. After the meeting Agent talked with Miss Flynn and she stated that she was going to speak in Socialist Hall, Erie, Pa., on the night of January 16th; that she was then going West and would speak in Buffalo, New York, and Rochester, New York, on her return trip.

She is about thirty-five-years of age; stout; weighs about 175 pounds; has dark hair; dark complexioned; about 5 ft. 5 in. tall, and fairly good looking. She wore a dark suit and coat.

CLOSED HERE.

61-496

REPORT MADE AT:	DATE WHEN MADE:	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE:	REPORT MADE BY:
Pittsburgh, Pa.	Jan. 19, 1922	Jan. 16 & 17.	H.J.Lenon.

TITLE AND CHARACTER OF CASE:

(ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN,

Lecturer,
X Sacco-Vanzetti Meeting,
Erie, Pa.

FACTS DEVELOPED:

AT ERIE, PA.

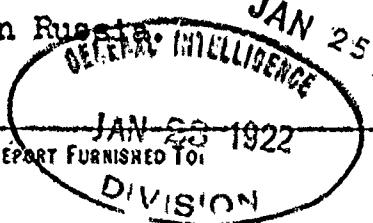
Acting on a communication from Special Agent in Charge Edward J. Brennan, New York City, addressed to the Director of the Bureau and dated January 5th, calling attention to a meeting to be held in Erie, Pa., January 16th, 1922, Agent in Charge R.B. Spencer delegated this Agent to proceed to Erie and cover said meeting.

Upon my arrival in Erie, I requested the night Chief of Detectives to assign two men to ZUCH'S HALL, 1602 Peach Street, Erie and suggested that these men enter the hall separately and to avoid making themselves conspicuous.

I also requested FRANK SHUTTS, a local friend, to attend the meeting. This for the purpose of having at least three witnesses to corroborate my testimony in case of any legal need for same.

RALPH TILLOTSON, convicted under the Espionage Act in 1919, acted as Chairman and introduced the speaker of the evening ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN.

TILLOTSON dwelt on the Moyer Pettibone Haywood case and said that if the workers had not come to the assistance of their comrades, Haywood would now be resting in his grave instead of enjoying life among his friends in Russia.



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ORIGINAL

H.J.Lenon,

January 19, 1923

Page #2.

TILLOTSON also dwelt at length on the so-called "frame up" of the Chicago Anarchists and told of the great publicity given the case and how one of the men said that the prophetic words uttered by the men executed for the alleged killing of the police would roll on down the years in spite of the fact that the men were being strangled not for the alleged bombing, but for their utterances and that it was only through an aroused voice of labor that outrages of this kind could be prevented or made harder to carry on.

He then introduced ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN, who gave a brief outline of the history of SACCO and VANZETTI. The epidemic of crime sweeping over New England because the soldier had been denied that for which he fought and because of the unemployment of so many men. How the people were clamoring for police action and asking the question, "Don't the police ever catch anybody?". Then a paymaster was robbed and killed and the police had no trace of the murderer and had to get someone so they took the labor agitators, the radicals of the district and, after quizzing them for some time about their nationality and connections with radical organizations, charged them with the murder.

She then described the witnesses and their testimony and finally asked for a collection and plead for a protest from labor against the execution of SACCO and VANZETTI, and a demand for a new trial etc.

She told of addressing a meeting in Plymouth, Mass., and how thirty children sat in the front row and each put their pennies,

H.J.Lenon,

January 19, 1922

Page #3.

nickels and dimes in the collection and that they gathered around the speaker and asked "Will Mr. Sacco come back to us?", "Will they kill Mr. Vanzetti?", and then she said: "If we could get labor all over this country as much interested as the thirty little children in Plymouth we would put an end to frame ups etc."

The collection amounted to \$37.33. About one hundred persons were in the hall. Eleven cents admission was charged at the door.

A receipt was written on the typewriter in the office in the rear of the building, which GURLEY FLYNN signed, then a sum of money was given to her and she left the hall.

Agent engaged her in conversation but she was not inclined to talk about anything except her health and this her first visit to Erie, Pa., and that she was going to Cleveland, Detroit and elsewhere.

Agent talked to several "Reds", principal among them RALPH TILLOTSON, who admitted that GURLEY FLYNN was a sorry disappointment as a lecturer, not in the same class with KATE O'HARE and that it was GURLEY FLYNN'S first visit to Erie and would probably be her last visit.

TILLOTSON said he had been requested by the boys to act as Chairman. He also said that there were very few Socialists in the Hall, that most of those in attendance are now Communists. I asked under whose auspices the meeting was held and TILLOTSON replied: "FRIENDS OF SOVIET RUSSIA".

X A Polish circular was distributed at the close of the meeting. I am having it translated. It is entitled "Who is Jimmie Higgins?".

This case closed.

REPORT MADE AT: Detroit, Mich.	DATE WHEN MADE: 1/27/22	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 1/26/22	REPORT MADE BY: J. S. Apelman.
TITLE AND CHARACTER OF CASE: O ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN.		Radical Activities. AT THE INTELLIGENCE SECTION OF THE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
FACTS DEVELOPED: <u>Detroit, Michigan.</u>	1922 DATE 8/10/83 4/1/360-500		
<p>Investigation based on letter from Special Agent in Charge, Edward J. Brennan, of the New York Bureau Office, requesting that the meetings in this city, addressed by this woman, be covered and that reports concerning them be forwarded to the New York office.</p> <p>I am in receipt of reports from confidential informants, who attended the mass meeting held at the House of Masses, January 22, 1922, and that held at the Labor Lyceum, January 23, 1922, at which Elizabeth Gurley Flynn was the principal speaker. These informants state that she in her speeches gave a description of the Sacco-Vanzetti case almost identical with that contained in the pamphlet entitled, "The Story of the Sacco-Vanzetti Case", published by the Sacco-Vanzetti Defense Committee, Box 37, Hanover Street Station, Boston, Mass.</p> <p>During her stay in this city Elizabeth Gurley Flynn issued the following statement through the local press:</p> <p>" I'm rather of the opinion that I was born a Socialist, but even if I were not I began to study it early, and no person can delve into the subject without becoming more or less of 'a nut', " she said as we chatted about her activities.</p> <p>" My father came to this country from Ireland and worked</p>			
REFERENCE: Mr. Hoover-2	COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: New York (2)		

ORIGINAL

his way through college, coming out a civil engineer. I saw him work hard and then be cheated out of his wages by his employers, and even as a child I found myself protesting against a system that permitted such injustice. I attended the Morris High School in New York, from which I was graduated, and meanwhile I went as far into the study of social conditions as my knowledge and experience permitted."

SHE STARTED EARLY.

" I was not 20 when I became active in this work, in fact when it became my life work. I have been a factor in a good many disputes between labor and capital. I possessed as a sort of racial heritage, a love of oratory.

I became involved with the I.W.W., because I was early convinced that labor could get what it merited, a fair division of profit, by industrial union in contradistinction to craft organization. That association, the Industrial Workers of the World, has had to bear all sorts of unjust burdens. It was an ideal organization with those who conceived it, being all-absorbing, international, embracing the migratory workers as well as the farmers and artisans. Force is a powerful and dangerous weapon and its employment is to be deplored, but if that dictum applies to the workers who are seeking to better their conditions why should it not also apply to nations that are bent upon campaigns of self-aggrandizement and spoliation ?

AN INDIAN EXAMPLE.

"In his campaign in India, Gandhi is showing the possibilities in passive resistance. If it can be worked in the Far Eastern empire, it could be worked here if all workers were united and the justice of a strike called by one element were recognized by all so that a plant would be shunned by labor until the misunderstanding with its own employers were adjusted. But in this and other industrial countries the importation of strike-breakers is in effect an act of force, and it is but human to resist force with force.

One of the difficulties under which those who believe in industrial organization have to labor is the popular conception of the word 'radical'. With too many conservatives it means nothing short of anarchy. It is nothing of the sort. We radicals simply recognize that with industrial conditions there is something radically

wrong; we want to get at the very foundation, not dawdle away our time with palliatives when a panacea is needed and is, we believe, possible.

In a way, I would like to see the paid employes of labor unions be compelled to return to the lathe, the mine, the workshop, to the truck, or to any other occupation followed before their elevation to wage-drawing places of trust in their unions. That is the only way, I believe, to keep the men from the evils of temptation. It is a dreadful commentary upon labor when a man, Samuel Untermeyer for example, a lawyer, is compelled to expose corruption and grafting among union leaders. Workers ought to be big, clear-headed, and strong enough to expose their own crooks. If they did that, such action would redound to the lasting credit of labor. "

REPORT MADE AT: Chicago, Ill.	DATE WHEN MADE: Feb. 8, 1922	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: Jan. 29, Feb. 4.	REPORT MADE BY: JACOB SPOIANSKY
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TITLE AND CHARACTER OF CASE:

O ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN Speaker for the SACCO VANZETTI DEFENSE COMMITTEE
(Radical Matter)

FACTS DEVELOPED:

AT CHICAGO ILL.

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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~~DATE 8-10-83 BY 367~~

Reference is made to communication from Agent in Charge Brennan of New York dated January 5th 1922 requesting to cover meetings where subject may appear.

Subject spoke at a meeting on January 29th at Prudential Hall, corner Halsted and North Avenue. Her speech was devoted to the persecution of the workers by the oil trusts. She urged the audience to help the workers defense committee to carry on their fight on behalf of the persecuted workers all over the country. She talked very little on SACCO and VANZETTI, emphasizing only that their persecution concerns the proletariat of this country.

Another speaker was HAROLD MULKS who went to Oklahoma to defend the I.W.W. and was beaten, as he stated, by the KU KLUX KLAN. MULKS described the beating he had received, which already has appeared in the radical press. A collection was taken up.

Another meeting at which subject appeared was held at the West Side Auditorium January 31st, 1922. D.E. EARLEY, well known Communist, presided. ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN spoke on the Sacco-Vanzetti Defense, giving a short summary of the trial which led to the sentence of the two Italians. She stated that ATTORNEY GENERAL DAUGHERTY made a statement that the Sacco-Vanzetti case

FEB 24 1922
is being used for radical propaganda. She stated that in order to prevent radical propaganda they had better stop the injustice. She emphasized that

SACCO and VANZETTI were innocent, and the fact that they were foreigners had

REFERENCE: J. Bullock
FEB 14 1922

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JACOB SPOLANSKY

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Jan. 29, Feb. 4.

a lot to do with their conviction.

ROMOLA BOBBA was the second speaker. BOBBA,
~~X~~ business manager of Il Proletario, spoke in Italian. A collection was taken up amounting to \$87.65. Subject left the same evening for Duluth, Minn. where she will appear at a mass meeting under the auspices of the SACCO-VANZETTI DEFENSE COMMITTEE.

CLOSED AT CHICAGO.

61-496

REPORT MADE AT:	DATE WHEN MADE:	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE:	REPORT MADE BY:
Kansas City, Mo.	Feb. 21, '22.	Feb. 5th, '22.	Oscar Schmitz.

TITLE AND CHARACTER OF CASE:

RADICAL ACTIVITIES, at Kansas City, Missouri.
ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN
O

FACTS DEVELOPED:

At Kansas City, Missouri.

I am in receipt of a confidential report relative
this matter from [redacted], alias [redacted] His report
as furnished me is as follows:

"Woodman Hall 15th -Grand Ave. Packed House, meeting called to order 8:38 p.m. Miss Elizabeth Girlie Flynn gave the following talk on the case of Sacco-Vanzetti cases. said American labor has just awoken to the urgency of the case, in demanding new trial, which all Europe are in one accord demanding justice to these men. Now, not only voice of labor in America are on the job but religious organizations. It is a fact that France wants the statue of liberty they gave U.S. returned as the country does practice the teaching of the principle of liberty. The talk was not very radical but she gave out hints."

He further advised me that ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN'S address did not appear to him to be very radical and that she told him confidentially after the meeting in a talk which he had with her that organizations in Russia were furnishing money to carry on their propaganda in the United States. He also advised me that the proceeds of the meeting amounted to about \$60.00, and that one FLOYD HYDE would speak at 8 p.m. Sunday, February 12th, at the Irish-American Hall, 1718 Grand Street, and that MISS NELL TYGART, Kansas City, Missouri, would speak at 12:30 Grand Avenue at 3 p.m., Sunday February 12th, and that regular Sunday meetings were expected to be held at 207 East 14th St. at 3:30 p.m. each Sunday by the Labor Party.

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DATE 8-10-83 BY 367

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REPORT MADE AT:	DATE WHEN MADE:	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE:	REPORT MADE BY:
Kansas City, Mo.	Mar 7, '22.	Mar. 6, '22.	Donald E. Long

TITLE AND CHARACTER OF CASE:

ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN, AMNESTY SPEECH, RADICAL ACTIVITIES, K.C.MO.

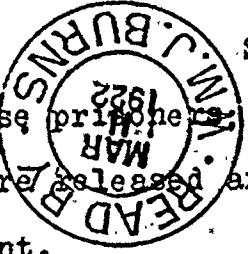
FACTS DEVELOPED:
At Kansas City, Missouri.

Reference is made to previous reports from the Kansas City office relative the activities of ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN.

By direction of Agent in Charge Oscar Schmitz, Agent attended a meeting at Mercantile Hall, 207 East 14th Street, March 6, 1922, 8 p.m. where ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN of New York addressed an audience of about 100, her subject being "Amnesty and Americanization."

Her remarks were more or less conservative and the enthusiasm was not marked. She condemned the Department of Justice and the administration for not granting amnesty to the 114 prisoners in Federal prisons, whom she designated as "Political Prisoners."

All present were advised to talk, agitate and write to the President and members of Congress in the interest of amnesty. The American Legion was condemned for their protests and she stated that Labor must write letters which will outnumber the opposition so that the administration will realize that amnesty is a popular demand.

 She also emphasized the fact that Labor was in need of these prisoners; that they will be able to do valuable service after they are released and that they will be a big asset in the cause of the movement.

MAR 15 1922

Admission of 25¢ was charged and \$20.00. ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

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MAR 10 1922	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
HOOVER	F.I.B.I.

W. L. M.

Donald E. Long

Mar. 7, 1922.

2.

It was announced at the meeting that on March 19, 1922, the Jewish Workers of the Workers Party would hold a meeting at the Jewish Temple, Kansas City, Missouri, and that the "Ladies Tea Club" would give a ball at Drexel Hall, Kansas City, Missouri.

On March 30, 1922, GEORGE HARDY will speak at the Labor Temple.

Open.

DEL-c

REPORT MADE AT:	DATE WHEN MADE:	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE:	REPORT MADE BY:
Kansas City, Mo.	Mar. 9, 1922.	March 9, 1922.	Donald E. Long.
TITLE AND CHARACTER OF CASE:			
WORKERS DEFENCE UNION (SACCO AND VANSETTI DEFENCE COMMITTEE) OUR CAPTION : ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN.			:RADICAL ACTIVITIES.

FACTS DEVELOPED:

At Kansas City, Missouri.

61-496

Reference is made to report of employee Emil A. Solanka, St. Louis, Missouri, dated March 8, 1922, relative to the activities of ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN.

Reference is also made to Agent's report dated March 7, 1922, relative the same matter.

ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN checked out of the Snyderhof Hotel, Kansas City, Missouri on March 8, 1922 and directed that her mail be sent to the Holland Hotel, Duluth, Minnesota.

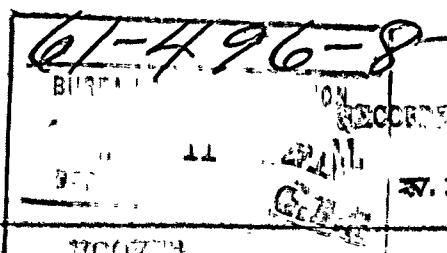
A copy of this report is being sent to the St. Paul office for their information.

OPEN

DEL:K



HELD
DATE 8-10-83 BY 367



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	2 copies St Paul. Wash City agt Long's Report March 7.

OFFICE OF
SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

FEB 10 1923

TELEPHONE, BARCLAY 8160
POST OFFICE BOX 241
CITY HALL STATION

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FILED
M 20 1923 A.M.

Department of Justice

Bureau of Investigation

15 PARK ROW, 14TH FLOOR
NEW YORK, N. Y.

January 17, 1923.

Director,
Bureau of Investigation,
Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE DIVISION.
Re: James Quinlan - Elizabeth
G. Flynn, Radical Activities.

Dear Sir:

61-496
The following is a copy of a letter sent Elizabeth
Gurley Flynn on December 15, 1922, from Leavenworth Prison by
James Quinlan, an inmate, said copy having been furnished to
Agent Scully by Mr. J. A. Sullivan of the United American Lines:

E. G. Flynn,
New York.

Dear Jailer:

In answer to your letter of Dec. 11th asking whether I wish to share in the fund collected by you. I certainly do not want anything from you for I would as soon receive money from Wm. J. Burns.

367
368 10.25
You have often been asked not to collect money by myself and others that I know, but you still persist in using the name of the I. W. W. prisoners to camouflage and gain your financial ends. You have been using us to collect funds for the last four years, and the only ones you have helped are such traitors as Vincent St. John and Jack Law, Chas. Ashleigh and others of your own stamp.

By your actions you have done more to keep us in here than the Dept. of Justice. You certainly sent me a package of swill, the christmas of 1919 that you gathered in some garbage can.

This year you will not have to leave the Mesaba Range to be home for Christmas. I do not expect to see this in the New York Call, but I am one that never forgets.

(Signed) James Quinlan, Box 7, Leavenworth.

Yours very truly,

EDWARD J. BRENNAN,
Special Agent in Charge.

R-581-E.

CJS:FJK

Leavenworth Prison
Dec. 15 1922

E. G. Flynn
New York

Dear Jailer:

In answer to your letter of Dec. 11th asking whether I wish to share in the fund collected by you. I certainly do not want anything from you, for I would as soon receive money from Mr. J. Burns.

You have often been asked not to collect money by myself and others that I know, but you still persist in using the name of the I. W. W. prisoners to camouflage, and gain your financial ends. You have been using us to collect funds for the last four years, and the only ones you have helped are such traitors as Vincent St. John and Jack Lee, Chas. Ashleigh and others of your own stamp.

By your actions you have done more to keep us in here than the Dept of Justice. You certainly sent me a package of mail, the Christmas of 1919 that you gathered in some garbage can.

This year you will not have to leave the Gossab Range to be home for Christmas. I do not expect to see this in the New York Call, but I am one that never forgets.

(Signed) James Quinlan
Box 7 Leavenworth Prison

this is addressed to the Sutorman
Gurley Flynn - of Civil
Liberty Union

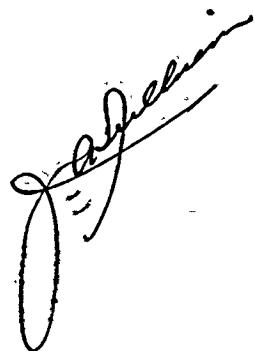
MEMORANDUM

Jan. 9th, 1923

McCauley:-

Note attached from James Quinlan, Leavensworth Prison.

It might be well for you to pass this along
to Scully of the D of J

A handwritten signature in black ink, slanted upwards from left to right. The signature appears to read "James Quinlan".

partment of Justice.

P. O. BOX 241
CITY HALL STA.
NEW YORK, N. Y.

OFFICIAL



PENALTY FOR FRAUD
-CITY R

DIRECTOR, CHIEF BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE DIVISION

WASHINGTON

JWM:GA

61-496-10

RECORDED	BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FEB 20 1923 P.M.	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	

February 19, 1923.

FILE

MEMORANDUM IN RE: ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN FEB 24 1923.

Subject, a woman of about 35 years of age, is an American citizen. Shortly after she graduated from high school in New York State she began addressing groups of girls out on strike in the millinery trades, several of these girls being former classmates. She was immediately proclaimed their champion and assumed leadership in the group. Soon after this she became identified with the Socialist-Labor Party of the I. W. W., and at a small salary was engaged by the leaders as field organizer.

Her first public speech was made ⁱⁿ 1906 in New York. That winter she went to Lawrence, Mass., where she spoke before strikers of the Lawrence textile works. With Joseph Etter, William Haywood, and others, she played a prominent part as an organizer in this strike. In 1908, while engaged in radical agitation in Michigan and Minnesota, she married John Archibald Jones, a radical agitator. Two years later she was arrested in Spokane, Wash., tried, convicted, and sentenced to jail for conspiracy and inciting riot. Upon her release from jail she returned to the East, where she took up her residence with her parents at 511 E. 134th St., New York City. She continued her radical agitation throughout the East, working in the interests of the I. W. W., Socialist and other

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8-10-83 BY 367

2/19/23

radical groups. She preached sabotage and recommended to restaurant and hotel workers the poisoning of guests and inciting of riots.

During 1913 she organized for the I. W. W. During the textile and silk industry strikes in Patterson, N. J. she was arrested. Several indictments were brought against her on account of her inciting riots, sabotage, etc. Her trial was sensational but she escaped conviction.

Since then she has spoken under the auspices of the American Civil Liberties Union, the Workers Defense Union, and other radical labor organizations, such as the Consumers League, Clothing Workers, Textile Workers, etc.

In 1921 she was arrested in Philadelphia for preaching and possessing radical literature, and for organizing the radical movement in violation of the State laws. She has shown considerable interest in behalf of the Sacco-Vanzetti case. She has at various times cooperated with Hindu organizations in an effort to oppose deportation. She is a member of the Metal Workers Union, I. W. W. In June, 1921 she addressed a conference of the Inter-Collegiate Socialist Society in Highland, N. Y.

Although subject has made many radical speeches in the past few years, on the whole she has been very discreet and guarded in her utterances.

This case originated at New York.

Journal to be made at originating office only.

STRUCTIONS FROM SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, J.A. DOWD

Page #1

REPORT MADE AT:	DATE WHEN MADE:	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE:	REPORT MADE BY:
Hartford, Conn.	4/16/23	4/15/23	WILLIAM S. LOUGHREN

TITLE AND CHARACTER OF CASE:
RE: LUIGI QUINTILLIANO and
ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN.
New York City. Alleged Radical
meeting at
South Norwalk, Ct.

61-496

FACTS DEVELOPED:

AT SOUTH NORWALK:

The following telegram was received from EDWARD J. BRENNAN, Agent in Charge, New York City, Office of the Bureau, on Saturday April 14th, 1923.

"INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE THAT LUIGI QUINTILLIANO and ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN will SPEAK AT THE SACCO VANZETTI DEFENSE MEETING SOUTH NORWALK SUNDAY APRIL FIFTEENTH".

Agent proceeded to South Norwalk, Conn., on Sunday April 15th, 1923, and immediately communicated with CHIEF OF POLICE, WILLIAM PENNINGTON, who stated that he had received no information of any meeting being held at Norwalk or South Norwalk on this date, and also that no permit had been issued for any meeting whatever. However, the Chief of Police got in touch with several of his officers and was informed that no word had been received of any meetings to be held at any of the halls where such affairs are usually given. Agent interviewed the Italian Reporter for the "NORWALK HOUR", who is in touch with meetings of an Italian nature in this vicinity and he stated that to his knowledge no meeting had been advertised or scheduled to be held on this date. At Norwalk one RUDOLPH BOVE a prominent Italian citizen was interviewed by Agent and he stated that the only affair to be given on this

date by the Italians was a little

REFERENCE: COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO:

MR. HOOVER 3-Washington, 1-New York, 1-Hartford

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

FILE NO.	RECORDED
61-496-1	MAY 7 1923
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
APR 17 1923	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
ROUTED TO:	FILE
4000V .2	JUN 18 1923

WSL-MMCK

4/15/23

Page 2

RE: LUIGI QUINTILLIANO and
ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN.

ALLEGED RADICAL MEETING AT
SOUTH NORWALK, Conn.

celebration to be held at Labor Lyceum on Washington St., South Norwalk, Conn., by an Italian lodge. No meetings of any character took place at Norwalk on this date. Agent made a surveillance of KISZ HALL, on the South End of South Norwalk, Palace Theatre, North Main St., Rialto Theatre, Washington St., Regent Theatre, Wall St., Norwalk, Conn., Central Hall, over Central Trust Co., 59 Wall St., South Norwalk, and Labor Lyceum, Washington St., South Norwalk. The only affair given was the one mentioned above at Labor Lyceum which Agent attended but no speaking took place. This meeting was in the nature of a get together of the Italian Lodge members. No advertisement or circulars were given out, during the week announcing any meeting.
CASE CONCLUDED in this DISTRICT.

61 - 496

Sept. 22, 1923.

Mr. John A. Dowd,
P. O. Box 348,
Hartford, Conn.

Re: Elizabeth Gurley Flynn,
Anarchist Activities.

Dear Sir:

Referring to your letter dated September 21, 1923, under caption "Elizabeth Gurley Flynn - Communist Activities," (Hartford File No. 53), I am attaching herewith a memorandum containing a general history of this woman.

For your information, Elizabeth Gurley Flynn is not affiliated with any Communist organization, but is devoting most of her time to the interests of the Italian Anarchists, such as Sacco and Vanzetti and Carlo Tresca.

Yours very truly,

EDWARD J. ERNEST,
Special Agent in Charge.

CJS: FJK
R-56-E
Ct. Wash.
Enclosure.

SEP 29 1923

RECORDED & INDEXED

R

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE
SEP 25 1923
DIVISION

61-496-12

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
SEP 24 1923 A.M.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
HOOVER

SEARCHED INDEXED
8-10-83 369

- MEMORANDUM -

Sept. 22, 1923.

RE: ELIZABETH CURLEY FLYNN

This woman is a native of the United States, born in 1888, the eldest daughter of Thomas and Mary Curley Flynn who were of Irish-Scotch ancestry.

She was educated in the public schools of New York and is a graduate of the Morris High School. Later she became identified with the Socialist Labor Party and the I. W. W. and made her first speech in this city during the year 1906. During the winter of that year and early in 1907 she was active at the Lawrence Textile strike, playing a prominent part as an organizer with Carlo Tresca and others. During the year 1908, after engaging in radical affairs in the copper and iron districts of Michigan and Minnesota, she married John Archibald Jones of Bovey, Minnesota, a miner and radical agitator. Several days after the marriage Jones was arrested, tried and convicted and sentenced to a term in a Michigan penitentiary for sabotage and carrying concealed weapons. Elizabeth Curley Flynn then continued west to Montana. In the early part of 1909 she gave birth to a son which she called John F. Jones. During the same year at Spokane, Washington, she was arrested, tried and convicted and sentenced to jail and served several months on a charge of conspiracy and inciting riot.

Jones returned to Chicago after his release from jail in Michigan and in 1920 secured a divorce from his wife on the ground of desertion.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-10-83 BY 367

After Elisabeth Gurley Flynn was released from jail at Spokane, Washington, she returned to New York and made her home with her parents at 611 East 184th St., and continued her radical agitation throughout the East and caused considerable disturbance due to her efforts in behalf of the I. W. W. and other radical groups. She was quite active in the strike of the Restaurant & Hotel Workers and it was then reported that she had recommended the poisoning of guests.

During 1913 she again became active as an organizer in the strikes of the textile and silk industries throughout New Jersey, in which she was assisted by Tressa, Rose Pastor Stokes and other prominent radicals. She was arrested for her participation in this strike on a charge of sabotage, but after numerous delays she was brought to trial during the year 1915 and the result was a disagreement of the jury. In 1916 she again resumed her activities here, working under the auspices of the American Civil Liberties Union and continued these activities until 1921. In March of 1921 she was arrested in Philadelphia, but, according to our records, the charges were not pressed.

In the last three or four years she has been active in the interests of the Workers Defense and particularly in the defense campaign of Sacco and Vanzetti.

She has been reported on a number of occasions as the common-law wife of Carlo Tressa and never loses an opportunity to take charge of a meeting at which her male companion makes the principal address. She is now said to be in this city and is de-

voting most of her efforts to raise funds for Fresco who recently was arrested, charged with a violation of the Postal Laws in this district.

fjk

CJS

APR 7 1924

4

Calls Radicals to R Save U. S. From Legion and Klan

II

Elizabeth Gurley Flynn Says
'Nation Is Going to Dogs';
Sees Fascist Party of Veter-
ans, Ku-Klux, Italians

61 - 496

Predicts a Mussolini

Tells Followers New Group Will Down Unions, Free Speech, Burn Libraries

The United States is going to the dogs, Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, radical worker, I. W. W. agitator and Bolshevik propagandist, announced yesterday.

Speaking before a small group of her followers, at 14 West Twelfth Street, Miss Flynn predicted that unless the radicals saved the nation from disaster the American Legion and the Ku-Klux Klan, sided by Italians, would form a Fascist party in this country, which would crush labor unions, stop free speech, gag the press and burn the libraries.

"Of course, Judge Elbert H. Gary says he favors the formation of a Fascist party in this country, when he discovered on a trip to Italy that the party there is suppressing labor unions by terrorism and feeding castor oil to radicals," said Miss Flynn.

Says Capital Aids Fascism

She declared that the Italian Ambassador and the State Department were working in collusion at Washington to prevent anti-Fascist meetings and that 4,000,000 Italian workers in America were being driven out of labor unions by propaganda in Fascist newspapers.

"The reasons why our State Department refuses to recognize Russia are that no popular vote has been taken to show that the Russians favor Bolshevism and that this country does not look with approval on a dictatorship," said Miss Flynn. "Yet these same conditions are worse in Italy. No vote of the Italians has been taken to show that they favor the Fascist method of administering castor oil to those who dare to disagree with Mussolini. Will the United States give the Italian Ambassador his passports and withdraw

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recognition of the Italian government until it gets rid of its dictator?

Klan and Legion Working

"On the contrary, the Italian Ambassador is making protests to the State Department against anti-Fascist meetings. The American Legion and the Ku Klux Klan are working to form a Fascisti here. The Mayor of a city where I attempted to speak told me that he would allow no meeting unless it was approved by the American Legion. In a Pennsylvania town they would not permit a meeting to commemorate the death of Lenin nor a meeting to denounce Mussolini."

Miss Flynn said that in view of the progress of the Ku Klux Klan and the American Legion it was likely that an American Mussolini would be in power at Washington unless the radicals can muster enough strength to save the situation.

The meeting was held under the auspices of the American Civil Liberties Union. It was announced that Miss Flynn's lecture was the first in a series she intends to deliver in a tour of the country.

Representative F. H. LaGuardia, who it was announced would preside, did not appear.

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Maniac Slain

a small alcove behind the hot furnace. There he crouched, drawing a revolver

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
March 28, 1924.

TPB:JWM

[CODE] (U)

M. H. Wasson
Federal Building
Spokane, Wash.

REPORTED THAT ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN CONVICTED AND
SERVED TIME AROUND 1909 FOR CONSPIRACY AND INCITING
RIOT WIRE WHETHER THIS CORRECT STOP TWO

496
BURNS

RECORDED & INDEXED

13

61-496-2	
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
MAR 31 1924 P.M.	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
FILE	

367

SEARCHED INDEXED SERIALIZED FILED

CASE ORIGINATED AT

OCTOBER 3, Wash.

ORIGINATING OFFICE ONLY

REPORT MADE AT:	DATE WHEN MADE:	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE:	REPORT MADE BY:
Spokane, Wash.	3/28/24	3/28/24	W. B. Poole
TITLE AND CHARACTER OF CASE:		ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN : Radical Activities	

FACTS DEVELOPED:

At Spokane, Wash:

8-10-83

367

#379

496

This investigation predicated on Bureau telegram:

"Washington DC Mar. 28, 1924

Wasson
Dept Justice, Spokane Wn

Reported that Elizabeth Gurley Flynn convicted and served time around 1909 for conspiracy and inciting riot Wire whether this correct

Burns."

Records in the local police department, show that ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN was arrested Nov. 30, 1909, on complaint of John T. Sullivan, Chief of Police, charged with conspiracy to violate city ordinance 3890 "prohibiting holding public meetings*****to draw crowds."

Arrested at that time were Louis Gatewood, C.M. Connor, William Douglass and G.H. Speed, offense committed Oct. 20, 1909.

Petitions for change of venue were filed by all five defendants, from the court of S.A. Mann to G. W. Stocker, by attorneys Fred H. Moore and Thomas J. Symmes.

On Dec. 9, 1909, in the court of G.W. Stocker, jury found ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN JONES, guilty and sentenced to 90 days in jail.

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FILE NO.	GENERAL	INVESTIGATIVE
101-496-74		
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION		APR 2-1924
		DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE		4 RIA
ROUTED TO:	FILE	SEARCHED & INDEXED
HOOVER		APR 2 1924

REFERENCE:

COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO:

Mr Hoover-2

Wn-3

file-3

Stay of execution granted to Dec. 14, 1909, and appeal made to the Superior Court:

Louis Gatewood,	found guilty,	sentenced 4 months
C.M. Connor	" " "	60 days
Wm. Douglas	" " "	30 "
G.H. Speed	" " "	6 months

The docket in the Superior Court, shows the case of ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN, combined for trial with one C. L. FILIGNO (case 4196 and 4220) and verdict by Jury on Feb. 24, 1910, found C L FILIGNO guilty and ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN not guilty.

The combining of these two cases, as stated in the charges, were to the effect that after the arrest of the five principals for conspiracy in unlawful assembly, telegrams and newspaper articles called on the local I. W. W unions to send large crowd of speakers to come to Spokane and speak ***** more than 300 coming, to the injury of public health and morals. The date of arrest of C L FILIGNO as Nov. 2, 1909, and includes the names of C.M. Connor, Louis Gatewood, Wm. Douglas, G.H. Speed, A.E. Cousins, James Thompson, E.J. Foote, John Pauoner and James Wilson.

In behalf of the defence, the following names appear, no transcript of testimony in files, S.A. Mann, Grace Arnett, H.L. Hughes, D.C. Coates, T.J. Kern, Mrs. Phillip Stalford, J.E. Arneet, Mrs. A.E. House, Ernest Stevens, T.A. Geraghty, J.C. Lee, J.S. Lichty, Ren H. Rice, J.J. Stark, E.E. Warren, F.D. Weiderhauser, E.J. Tamblin.

Chief of Detectives of Spokane, Capt. Martin J. Burns was active in the prosecution, and states to Agent that the Jury in the

W. B. Poole, Spokane, Wn.

3/28/24

3 -

Superior Court were influenced by the condition of ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN, who was noticeably pregnant. Photograph in the possession of the police department show her condition. ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN was married at that time to one JONES of Missoula, Mont.

CONTINUED ON REQUEST.

Department of Justice
TELEGRAM RECEIVED

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

61-496

Spokane, Washington,
March 28, 1924.

Burns.

Two stop Elizabeth Gurley Flynn arrested Spokane, November 30, 1909, violation City Ordinance, conspiracy unlawful assembly sentence ninety days County Jail. Appeal to superior court found not guilty. Jury sympathetic owing to her pregnant condition all four other found guilty. Report follows.

Wasson.

RECEIVED
Received 8:00 a.m. 3/29

Decoded - WAS

To Director - 9:55 a.m.

RECORDED & INDEXED
APR 5 - 1924

61-496-15

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
MAR 31 1924 P.M.	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
HOOVER	FILE

2
F. B. I.
J. D.

F

3054

structions from Special Agent in Charge R.B.Spencer.
 THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT Pittsburgh, Pa.

JOURNAL TO BE MADE AT ORIGINATING OFFICE ONLY

REPORT MADE AT: Pittsburgh, Pa.	DATE WHEN MADE: Apr.23, 1924	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: Apr.21, 1924	REPORT MADE BY: H. J. LENON..
TITLE AND CHARACTER OF CASE: AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION,		Elizabeth Gurley Flynn Lecture Tour.	

FACTS DEVELOPED:

AT PITTSBURGH, PA.

Office File No.309-M.R.

The following information was received from a confidential source:

"Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, 81 East 10th St., New York City, national secretary of the Workers Defense Union and leading member of the American Civil Liberties Union, will address a series of meetings, in Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin and the western states.

Her tour is being mapped out by the Civil Liberties Union of New York in cooperation with the Labor Defense Council, 166 W. Washington St., Chicago, Ill.

Flynn will start her tour on April 20th and will arrive in Ohio on May 10th. Her dates in Mahoning Valley are as follows:

Warren, O. - Hippodrome Hall, May 10th, Saturday, 8 P.M.
 New Castle, Pa. - Business College Hall, E. Washington St., Sunday, May 11th, at 2 P.M. before the Open Forum.

Youngstown, O. - Hungarian Hall, 338-½ W. Federal St., Sunday, May 11th, at 8 P.M. Auspices: Labor Defense & Free Speech Council.

Farrell, Pa. - German Hall, Monday, May 12th, 8 P.M. (not definite).

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

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APPROVED AND
FORWARDED: *DITL 8-10-83 BY 367*

R.B.SPENCER,

SPECIAL AGENT
IN CHARGE

RECORDED AND INDEXED:

APR 23 1924

REFERENCE: Hoover-3. COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO:
Bureau-3: Cleveland-1:
File-Z:

61-496-16		RECORDED AND INDEXED: APR 23 1924
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION APR 23 1924 DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE		GENERAL INTELLIGENCE APR 23 1924
ROUTED TO: HOOVER	FILE	JACKETED: R.W. 1. 1044 DIVISION

Re: H.J.Lenon,

Apr. 22, 1935

Flynn will be in the Youngstown district
days, and previous to this she will be in the
district.

3055

The national office of the Labor Defense
Chicago, Ill., is backing up the Flynn tour.

Her principal lecture entitled - The War on
is expected to attract big crowds.

She speaks for expenses only. All above her
goes to the Labor Defense Council, Chicago, Ill.,
the American Civil Liberties Union."

The record of ELIZABETH is too well known to
Bureau to bear repetition.

A copy of this report is being forwarded to our Cleveland
office for their information.

Instructions from Special Agent in Charge R.

J.CER

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

Pittsburgh - Pa.

JOURNAL TO

ORIGINATING OFFICE ONLY

REPORT MADE AT:

DATE WHEN MADE:

PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE:

REPORT MADE BY:

Pittsburgh, Pa.

May 14-1934

May 13-1934

J. H. Smart

TITLE AND CHARACTER OF CASE:

ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN

RADICAL ACTICITIES

FACTS DEVELOPED:

AT PITTSBURGH

61-496
Office File - 80 M.R.

This Office received information that a meeting was scheduled for the night of May 13th at the Jewish Labor Lyceum, 35 Miller Street, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. I attended this meeting, which was held under the joint auspices of the AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES LEAGUE and the LABOR DEFENCE COUNCIL; ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN was the speaker. It was, of course, impossible to take notes of the speech, and only the most salient points can be covered in this report.

The speaker declared the purpose of the meeting to be the crystallization of sentiment against the Sedition Laws of the various states, particularly Pennsylvania, and to raise funds for the defence of cases arising in the courts under these states and similar Federal laws, particularly for the defence of those implicated in the cases involving numbers of the WORKERS' PARTY at Mercer, Pennsylvania and of like cases to be prosecuted in Pittsburgh in the near future.

She referred to free speech, freedom of the press,

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED:

R. B. SPENCER

SPECIAL AGENT
IN CHARGE

RECORDED AND INDEXED

REFERENCE:

COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO:

J.E.H.-2

BUREAU: 3-1 TAINED
FILE: 1

61-496-17
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SEARCHED

INDEXED

MAY 17 1934

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MAY 22 1934

MAY 17 1934

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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NO OFFICE

FILE

MAY 18 1934

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE

SECTION

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8-10-83 / 36

and of assemblage as the most sacred of American traditions, quoting Jefferson, Lincoln, Wilson and Secretary Hughes as authorities, and deplored the loss of those rights during and since the war.

It was declared that the Government had become the tool of capitalism, that the War Espionage Act was directed at American Labor Agitators, rather than at German Spies, and that the Deportation Policy was directed by the Capitalistic interests and was inaugurated for the purpose of destroying organized labor by removing its leaders. It was asserted that Labor Leaders, such as Mooney and Hayward, "who were guilty of no overt act" were sentenced to longer terms than men who were proven to be German Spies.

Complaint was made that the Americans ostracized the newly arrived foreigners for lowering American standards of living and then assailed them when they tried to change these standards to those of America through organized efforts for higher wages, and better working and living conditions.

Judge Gary, of the United States Steel Corporation, was denounced because of the arrangement with the Italian Premier, MUSSOLINI, by which hundreds of contract laborers were to be brought to America and exploited for capital to be kept in enclosures which they could not leave on danger of deportation. This plot, the speaker said, was happily frustrated by the Johnson Immigration Bill.

MISS FLYNN then launched a vigorous attack against the Ku Klux Klan and the Italian Fascisti. She asserted that the Klan,

an unamerican and unrepresentative organization, was fostered and encouraged by the Capitalistic interests, to create friction between the various labor organizations, and split them into warring factions. She urges the workers to greater solidarity of purpose and deplored the apathy of workers everywhere toward their organizations, stating that if the working class was conscious of its potential power, and would act concertedly together, it could dictate the economics and governmental policies of America.

The work of the Department of Justice was denounced by the Speaker, who stated that W. J. BURNS, whose retirement would be acclaimed by all workers, maliciously raised the cry of "Communism" and "Bolshevism" to increase his personal prestige, and that the radical raids conducted by his men were made with the sole purpose of frightening Congress into increasing appropriations for the Bureau of Investigation. In most cases, as a result of these raids, it was said that laborers who had no radical tendencies at all were made to suffer.

Special Agent, Henry J. Lenon of this Office was scored for his activities against the Radicals, particularly as to the recent Mercer, Pennsylvania cases, and the case against Carlo Tresca, the Italian Radical and husband of subject in New York last winter. Agent Lenon was ridiculed for professing to be an "expert" on radical activities. It was asserted that after the recent conviction of A.W. Kovacevich in the Mercer, Pennsylvania case, Agent Lenon and Special Assistant United States Attorney, MYER had said: " Now we will go down and clean out the Pittsburgh gang."

MISS FLYNN invited questions from the audience, but declined to say anything about Russia, Bolshevism or the radical movement in America.

The appearance of the speaker was marked by a refinement and poise, and the speech was delivered in a forceful manner, in a clear and convincing voice. There were many flashes of humor and clever thrusts at the men she attacked, which were enjoyed by the crowd, but the people in attendance were not visibly impressed by the address. The applause was only moderate, and although the audience was friendly, they were by no means carried away by MISS FLYNN'S impassioned utterances. However, a liberal response was made to the appeal for funds.

The audience numbered about two hundred and fifty and was composed principally of Jews and Latins.

Copies of the "Liberator" and the "Labor Herald" were sold, and other literature printed in Hebrew was distributed.

CONCLUDED.